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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-33 (cancelled).

Claim 34 (previously added): An isolated nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes to the nucleic acid depicted in SEQ ID NO:1 in 50% formamide and 6XSSC, at 42°C and after washing conditions of 60°C, 0.5XSSC, 0.1% SDS, and encodes an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to amino acids 1-118 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 35 (previously added): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 34, wherein said amino acid sequence is at least 90% identical to amino acids 1-118 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 36 (previously added): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 34, encoding an amino acid sequence comprising amino acids 1-118 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 37 (previously added): An isolated nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes to the nucleic acid depicted in SEQ ID NO:1 in 50% formamide and 6XSSC, at 42°C and after washing conditions of 60°C, 0.5XSSC, 0.1% SDS, wherein said molecule is at least 80% identical to the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 38 (previously added): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 37, wherein said molecule is at least 90% identical to the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 39 (previously added): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 38 comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 40 (previously added): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 37 encoding an amino acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 41 (previously added): A recombinant vector that directs the expression of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 34.

Claim 42 (previously added): A recombinant vector that directs the expression of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 35.

Claim 43 (previously added): A recombinant vector that directs the expression of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 36.

Claim 44 (previously added): A recombinant vector that directs the expression of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 37.

Claim 45 (previously added): A recombinant vector that directs the expression of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 38.

Claim 46 (previously added): A recombinant vector that directs the expression of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 39.

Claim 47 (previously added): A recombinant vector that directs the expression of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 40.

Claim 48 (previously added): A host cell or its progeny transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 41.

Claim 49 (previously added): A host cell or its progeny transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 42.

Claim 50 (previously added): A host cell or its progeny transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 43.

Claim 51 (previously added): A host cell or its progeny transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 44.

Claim 52 (previously added): A host cell or its progeny transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 45.

Claim 53 (previously added): A host cell or its progeny transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 46.

Claim 54 (previously added): A host cell or its progeny transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 47.

Claim 55 (previously added): The host cell of claim 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, or 54, wherein the host cell is a bacterial cell.

Claim 56 (previously added): The host cell of claim 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, or 54, wherein the host cell is a yeast cell.

Claim 57 (previously added): The host cell of claim 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, or 54, wherein the host cell is a plant cell.

Claim 58 (previously added): The host cell of claim 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, or 54, wherein the host cell is an animal cell.

Claim 59 (previously added): A method for the production of SIGIRR polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, or 54 under conditions promoting expression.

Claim 60 (previously added): The method of claim 59, further comprising recovering the polypeptide from the culture medium.